



News Release

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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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Hired Workers Down 5 Percent, Wage Rates Up 1 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,186,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 10-16, 2011, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 836,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 350,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.90 per hour during the July 2011 reference week, up 11 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.24 per hour, up 15 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$10.28 per hour compared with \$10.15 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.25 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.3 for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Farm Labor: Employment, Wage Rates, and Hired Workers, Regional and U.S.

Year and Month			Hired Workers ¹			
	Hired Workers <i>1,000</i>	Hours Worked <i>Hours per Week</i>	Wage Rates for Type of Worker			All Hired Workers
			Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock	

CORN BELT II REGION²

2009

January	20	34.0	11.06	11.27	11.20	11.40
April	22	31.8	10.35	12.45	11.15	11.80
July	28	33.6	10.88	10.05	10.55	11.01
October	30	31.1	10.46	11.23	10.75	10.85

2010

January	23	33.5	11.40	10.77	11.00	10.98
April	27	39.0	10.47	11.23	10.75	10.87
July	33	31.9	10.51	11.45	10.95	11.20
October	29	37.8	11.62	11.02	11.40	11.60

2011

January	17	36.3	11.29	10.86	11.00	11.40
April	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
July	33	37.1	12.25	11.43	12.00	12.15

UNITED STATES

2009

January	603	38.4	9.97	10.29	10.09	10.93
April	694	40.2	10.00	10.27	10.09	10.86
July	892	39.8	10.04	10.07	10.05	10.66
October	829	39.0	10.22	10.28	10.24	10.93

2010

January	612	37.2	10.10	10.31	10.18	11.08
April	746	39.8	10.03	10.30	10.12	10.82
July	885	40.7	10.09	10.15	10.11	10.79
October	827	41.7	10.49	10.28	10.43	11.13

2011

January	602	38.9	10.23	10.52	10.35	11.29
April	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
July	836	41.3	10.24	10.28	10.25	10.90

¹ Includes all workers and methods of pay except those workers paid by piece rate. ² Corn Belt II Region: Iowa, Missouri